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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Edward Triou Jr., et al.

Confirmation No.: **7147**

Serial No.: **10/828,947**

Group Art Unit: 2114

Filing Date: **April 21, 2004**

Examiner: **Paul F. Contino**

For: **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR AUTOMATED CLASSIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF LARGE VOLUMES OF TEST RESULT DATA**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

APPELLANT'S REPLY EXAMINER'S ANSWER

Appellants submit this Reply in response to the Examiner's Answer dated September 4, 2008 in connection with the above-identified application. This reply is being filed within two months of said answer.

Appellants would like to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-7, 22-24, and 27. Appellants also thank the Examiner for the opportunity to discuss the present application during the telephonic interview held on August 29, 2008 between Appellant's representative Michael Swope and Examiner Paul Contino, in which the Examiner indicated that all claims except claim 8 and its dependent claims are in condition for allowance. Without conceding the propriety of the outstanding rejections, Appellants hereby cancel claims 8-12 and 14 pursuant to C.F.R. § 41.33 and submit that such cancellation does not affect the scope of any other pending claim in the present proceeding. Appellants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of all cancelled claims in one or more related or continuation applications.

Favorable consideration and passage to issue of the application at the examiner's earliest convenience is earnestly solicited.

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Date: November 4, 2008

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Previously Presented) A method for analyzing test results, comprising:

reading test result data corresponding to at least two test failures;

wherein a test failure comprises a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system;

wherein said test result data identifies an operating system associated with each test failure;

determining a representative test failure in said test result data, said representative test failure corresponding to a first failed operation;

determining at least one related test failure corresponding to a second failed operation, wherein said second failed operation is a same operation as said first failed operation;

parsing said test result data to generate a list of operating systems corresponding to said representative test failure and said at least one related test failure; and

linking said list of operating systems to said representative test failure in said database.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said method is accomplished by a stored procedure in a database.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said test result data identifies a computer processor associated with each test failure, and further comprising including computer processor identification in said list of operating systems.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising exposing said at least one representative test failure through a Graphic User Interface ("GUI").

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4, further comprising marking said at least one representative test failure in said GUI as an expected failure.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, further comprising deemphasizing said at least one representative test failure in said GUI with respect to any unexpected failures.

7. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium bearing instructions automated test result analysis, comprising:

instructions for reading test result data corresponding to at least two test failures;

wherein a test failure comprises a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system;

wherein said test result data identifies an operating system associated with each test failure;

instructions for determining a representative test failure in said test result data, said representative test failure corresponding to a first failed operation;

instructions for determining at least one related test failure corresponding to a second failed operation, wherein said second failed operation is a same operation as said first failed operation;

instructions for parsing said test result data to generate a list of operating systems corresponding to said representative test failure and said at least one related test failure; and

instructions for linking said list of operating systems to said representative test failure in said database.

8.-21. (Canceled).

22. (Previously Presented) A method for classifying test results, comprising:

extracting data from a test result file, wherein said test result file identifies a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system;

comparing said data from a test result file to failure characteristics stored in a database, wherein first data that identifies a test operation is used in said comparison and second data that identifies a test scenario comprising at least an operating system identifier is not used in said comparison; and

if a match is discovered from said comparing, identifying said data from a test result file and said failure characteristics as a single failure in a Graphical User Interface (GUI), and adding said operating system identifier to a list of operating system identifiers associated with said single failure.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 22, wherein said comparing is accomplished by a stored procedure in a database.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, further comprising cross-referencing said list of operating system identifiers such that it is accessible through said GUI from said single failure.

25.– 26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, wherein said data from a test result file is in Extensible Markup Language ("XML") format.